

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

October 22, 2001

<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION</b>	)	<b>DOCKET NO. 01-00680</b>
<b>AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS</b>	)	
<b>THERE TO NEGOTIATED BY BELL SOUTH</b>	)	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND</b>	)	
<b>NEWSOUTH COMMUNICATIONS, CORP.</b>	)	
<b>PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF</b>	)	
<b>THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996</b>	)	

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**ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS**

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This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition for approval of the Interconnection Agreement and Amendments thereto negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and NewSouth Communications, Corp. The Petition for approval of the Agreement and Amendments came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

The Agreement and Amendments were considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on October 9, 2001, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Melvin J. Malone. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.* Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and Amendments and made the following findings and conclusions:

1) The Agreement and Amendments are in the public interest as they provide consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the BellSouth service area;

2) The Agreement and Amendments are not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;

3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;

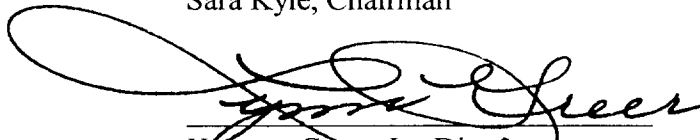
4) The Agreement and Amendments satisfy the standards for approval of negotiated interconnection agreements set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252; and

5) The Agreement and Amendments are reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.*

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The Interconnection Agreement and Amendments thereto negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and NewSouth Communications, Corp. are approved and are subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.

  
Sara Kyle, Chairman

  
H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director

  
Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:

  
K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary